

the little girl accomplished more than many a minister accomplishes in a lifetime. Do you distribute tracts? Begin now, it always pays.

THERE seems to us to be a growing tendency among all denominations to that wideness of spirit and brotherly love which characterized the Master himself. The salvation of the world is occupying the attention of the church universal and Christ is made more and more the center of our faith and work. Now and then however our optimistic views receive a severe shock and pessimistic obstacles are thrown athwart our pathway. The following from the *Ram's Horn* is one of them: "Witness in the city of brotherly love the late meeting of a worthy denomination of Christians. There was a difference of views. Was it over the cardinal doctrines of the gospel? No. Was it over questions of polity and organization? No. Was it over plans whereby Christ might be preached in the home of foreign heathen? No. In the name of common sense and sobriety, what was this cruel rock that almost foundered a grand body of Christians and split their ark in twain? It was *Shall our Clergyman preach with the black gown or white*. Oh, the bitterness, the wickedness, the crime of taking time in this serious, busy age, to bicker and bite over such husks and shavings, when the marriage feast of the Lamb is impending and the bells of heaven are ringing and urging us to speed away to the harvest of souls."

CONFERENCE NOTES.

The time for the meeting of the Conference is near at hand. Do not forget the election of your delegates. Not only elect your delegates but instruct them so that they may act intelligently on questions that come before the Conference.

Please remember the day of prayer for the success of the Conference, Sabbath, August 22. But let us also remember that prayer without works is like faith without works—dead. We need therefore to follow our prayers with an earnest effort to bring about the thing we pray for.

Our latest news from Johnstown touching transportation is that a one and one-third fare has been granted. A hard effort was made to get one fare for the round trip but the Association would not yield.

Here is a pointer for all ministers who expect to be present at the Conference: Come to the meeting prepared to preach. You will not be assigned a place until you get there, and perhaps not then, but the only safe way is to go there ready in case you are called upon. Do not overlook this item. It is important. It is far bet-

ter that you should be prepared to preach even if not called upon, than to be called to preach and not be prepared.

The city of Johnstown is situated on the main line of the Pennsylvania R. R., and our people from almost all over the brotherhood will find this the most direct route to the Conference. The accommodations on this road are unsurpassed. We recommend this line to our people everywhere. The State Conference which meets in Chicago just a few days before the National Conference can come in a body direct to Johnstown without change of depots. The change at Pittsburg is at the Union depot and is simply stepping from one train to the other. Passengers from Pittsburg and all west of Pittsburg will find it to their advantage to take the P. R. R., while the Philadelphia and all eastern and central Pennsylvania people will find this line equally advantageous.

ILLIOKOTA CONFERENCE.

The program of the Illiokota Conference appears in this issue. It should have been published earlier, but thro an error for which we are responsible in part only it was delayed.

The rate from Waterloo to Chicago and return has been lowered to one fare, \$8.25, provided there are twenty-five go together. All from the State of Iowa should meet at Waterloo on August 19.

Brother Gillin has been working hard to make this conference a success and he urges that the attendance be as large as possible. Brother McFaden says Chicago is big enough to take care of the whole district, in fact the whole Brethren church, if necessary. The fact that the National Conference meets right after this State Conference should have a tendency to increase the attendance of both.

PHILANTHROPY.

The tendency of the age is to substitute philanthropy for the religion of Jesus Christ, or at least to divorce it entirely from Christianity. There are men and women engaged in works of beneficence who are non-adherents to Christianity, and who make the bold claim that there is no relation between them. In this they are mistaken. Doctor Daniel Dorchester says, "Philanthropy is the child of Christianity, begotten by her, born in her fold, invested with her image, inspired with her spirit, and working towards the same beneficent end." This is beautifully and truthfully said. To this he fittingly adds, "Before Christ came there was no background of benevolence in life, no ideal of tenderness and compassion." Max Muller says, "The word mankind never pass-

ed the lips of Socrates or Plato or Aristotle." The ancients may have had the words philanthropy and mankind but it was Christ that gave to these terms their true meaning and interpretation. The philanthropic ideas and impulses which to-day bless this world are the direct outgrowth of the spirit of Christianity. They are sadly lacking in heathen literature and do not exist to-day where Christianity is wholly unknown. Philanthropy, beneficence, the tender and compassionate regard for humanity, these are the legitimate fruits of Christianity and it is an injustice to credit them to any other source.

REGENERATION AND REFORMATION.

The statement of Dr. Parker, of London, in a recent article, that not "reformation but regeneration is what the world needs," is true but it is not the whole truth. The world *does* need reformation, it needs it as badly as it needs regeneration. The mistake is made in substituting reformation for regeneration. The former is the natural sequel of the latter. It is very little we would give for a regeneration that does not result in reformation. Regeneration is the only road that leads to true reformation. To talk about regeneration without reformation is as far from the mark as to talk of reformation without regeneration. The two are inseparable. There have been many attempts at reformation without a recognition of that deeper process and root principle which is regeneration, but all such efforts have proven futile, resulting in nothing permanent. A new *life* and a new and better *practice* are the natural and inevitable fruits of regeneration, and this amounts to reformation. Regeneration produces a change of heart, and a change of heart is always followed by a change in life. We can not conceive of regeneration in the scriptural sense without its natural sequel, reformation, tho there may be a temporary reformation without regeneration, but it will be temporary only. Whenever regeneration takes place it reforms something in some way. A changed heart and a changed life, these are cause and effect.. What God has put together let not man put asunder.

EFFECTIVE EVIDENCE.

The apostle Paul tells us that believers in Christ are living epistles, read and known by all men. It is a fact that as a rule the world gets its idea of what Christianity is from those who profess to be followers of Christ. Unbelievers do not read books on evidences, it is very little